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Fifty-eighth session
Agenda item 17 (b)

PROMOTION AND PROTECTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS: HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS

Letter dated 2 April 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Singapore to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Chairperson of the fifty-eighth session of the Commission on Human Rights

I have the honour to refer to the report of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on human rights defenders (E/CN.4/2002/106) which was submitted to the fifty-eighth session of the Commission on Human Rights.

I enclose a letter dated 2 April 2002 which I sent to the Special Representative, and request that the attached letter* be circulated as an official document of the fifty-eighth session of the Commission on Human Rights under item 17 (b).

(Signed): Vanu GOPALA MENON
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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* Reproduced as received, in English only.

Annex

PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
OF THE REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE
TO THE UNITED NATIONS

Phone: (4122)929 6644
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2 April 2002

Ms Hina Jilani
Special Representative of the Secretary-General
on Human Rights Defenders
c/o Office of the United Nations High Commissioner
for Human Rights
Palais Wilson
51 rue des Paquis
1201 Geneva

Dear Ms Jilani

I refer to your report on Human Rights Defenders (E/CN.4/2002/106), which was submitted to the 58th Session of the Commission on Human Rights (CHR).

You stated in paragraph 322 of the report that you had requested the Singapore Government to extend an invitation to you to carry out an official visit to Singapore but that you had yet to receive a reply from us.

In August 2001, the Permanent Mission of Singapore to the United Nations in Geneva had contacted the Secretariat of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) to request for more information on the objectives of your proposed visit to Singapore and the kind of issues that you would like to focus on. We had indicated to the Secretariat that this information would aid our consideration of your request to visit Singapore. The Secretariat indicated in August 2001 that they would prepare a note with details concerning your mission to Singapore. To date, we have yet to receive this note.

Yours sincerely

VANU GOPALA MENON

ICC Building, 29 route de Pre-Bois, PO Box